

Virginia Marine Resources Commission 2006 Recreational Fishing Regulations For Striped Bass in Virginia's Marine Waters

Coastal Season..... January 1 – March 31, 2006
and May 16 – December, 2006
Possession Limit..... 2 per person
Minimum Size Limit..... 28 inches

Chesapeake Bay Season (Spring)..... May 16 – June 15, 2006
Possession Limit..... 2 per person
Minimum Size Limit..... 18 inches
Maximum Size Limit**..... 28 inches

** 1 fish of the 2 fish possession limit may be larger than 32 inches as provided for in the Trophy Season regulations except in the spawning reaches of the tributary rivers where no fish 32" in length or longer may be possessed; combining limits for overlapping seasons or regulations is prohibited - no more than 2 fish allowed in any overall limit at any time.

Chesapeake Bay Season (Fall)..... October 4 – December 31, 2006
Possession Limit..... 2 per person
Minimum Size Limit..... 18 inches
Maximum Size Limit**..... 28 inches

** 1 fish of 2 fish possession limit may be 34 inches in length or greater; no fish measuring between 28 and 34 inches may be possessed at any time.

Virginia Trophy Season*
Chesapeake Bay and Tributaries..... May 1 – June 15, 2006
Coastal Waters (Territorial Sea)..... May 1 – May 15, 2006
Possession Limit..... 1 per person
Minimum Size Limit..... 32 inches

* Catch report required for any fish 32" or larger kept during Trophy Season.
Trophy Season possession limit cannot be combined or added to the limit for any overlapping season.

Coastal Regulations: Apply in Virginia's coastal ocean waters inside the Three Mile Limit Line, plus all of the creeks, bays, inlets and tributaries on the seashore of Accomack County, Northampton County (including areas east of the causeway from Fisherman Island to the mainland) and the City of Virginia Beach (including federal areas and state parks, fronting on the Atlantic Ocean and east and south of the point where the shoreward boundary of the Territorial Sea joins the mainland at Cape Henry).

Chesapeake Bay Regulations: Apply in the main stem of the Chesapeake Bay and Virginia's Chesapeake Bay tributary rivers, except for the tributary rivers emptying into the Potomac River

Trophy Season Regulations: Apply in Virginia's Territorial Sea and the Chesapeake Bay and its Virginia tributary rivers, except the spawning reaches of the tributary rivers where no fish 32" in length or longer may be kept or possessed.

Virginia Marine Resources Commission Important Information Concerning Saltwater Fishing Regulations For Striped Bass

Regulations in Spawning Reaches of Virginia's Tributary Rivers

Regulations in the spawning reaches of Virginia's Chesapeake Bay tributary rivers are the same as the regulations for Chesapeake Bay. Except no trophy fish (no fish 32" in length or longer) may be kept or possessed from May 1, 2006 – June 15, 2006.

Federal Waters Regulations

Atlantic Ocean waters beyond the Three Mile Limit Line are closed to taking and possession of striped bass all year.

Potomac River Striped Bass Regulations

Different regulations apply in the Potomac River and its tributaries, including Virginia tributaries. These areas are subject to the rules and regulations of the Potomac River Fisheries Commission, 222 Taylor Street, Colonial Beach, VA 22443, (804) 224-7148. However, pursuant to Virginia regulations (4VAC-20-252-100 F) the possession limit for fishermen in the Virginia tributaries to the Potomac River may never include more than one fish measuring 34 inches in length or longer.

Illegal To Gaff Striped Bass

Gaffing Striped Bass or attempting to gaff Striped Bass is illegal in Virginia Marine Waters.

**All Regulations are Subject to Change
It is the Angler's Responsibility to Know
and Abide by all Current Regulations and Laws
Check for New Regulations Before You Go
Fishing.**

Regulations are subject to review and change throughout the year. Information on the most current regulations can be obtained from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission, 2600 Washington Ave., Newport News, Virginia 23607, (757) 247-2200; from the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament, 968 South Oriole Drive, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23451, (757) 491-5160; and from the Virginia Marine Resources Commission internet website at



www.mrc.virginia.gov

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